Outdoor Leadership Training

BALOO and IOLS are introductory outdoor training courses. Every Pack is required to have at least one BALOO trained leader for overnight campouts, including Webelos Den overnighters. IOLS is a required course for any registered Scoutmaster/Assistant Scoutmaster to be considered “trained.”

Regardless of who has to take the training, we encourage any interested (and registered) adults to attend. The skills you learn/improve will help you, your Scout, and your unit.

**Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation [BALOO]**

BALOO is geared to help prepare any Cub leader for a Pack Campout. This one-and-a-half day course (plus online pre-requisites) is designed as an introduction to the Cub Scout outdoor program.

**Course topics include:**
- Program Planning for Campouts
- Aquatics within the Cub Program
- Gear Selection
- GPS for Cub Geocaching
- Stoves, Lanterns, and Fire Safety
- Nature & Hiking
- Campfire Planning
- Outdoor Ethics
- Cooking & Sanitation
- Meal Planning
- First Aid
- Knife Safety
- Campsite Selection
- Large-Group Games
- Duty to God
- Outdoor Ceremonies
- Basic Knots for Cubs

**Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills [IOLS]**

IOLS is a hands-on course that provides adult leaders the practical outdoor skills they need to lead Scouts in the out-of-doors, and tackle most Scout through First Class requirements.

**Course topics include:**
- Campsite Selection
- Outdoor Ethics
- Packing & Hiking Techniques
- Ropes - Whipping, Tying, and Lashing
- Wood Tools - Knife, Camp Saw, and Ax
- Fire Site Prep & Building
- Cooking
- Plant Identification
- Animal Identification
- Map & Compass

*These look awfully similar, so why don’t we just combine them?* Mainly because keeping them separate is BSA guidance. It means we are ensuring we focus the appropriate level of training for the leaders to improve their outdoor skills, while helping them focus on the outdoor needs of their units.*